

## AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

The status of all claims and the text of pending claims, with markings to show current changes relative to the immediately prior version, follows.

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1. (Currently Amended) A brush seal assembly for sealing a gap between a first component and a second component, comprising:
    - a body;
    - bristles extending from said body in a direction; and
    - an extension from said body, said extension having an elongated slot therein;wherein said slot, when said brush seal assembly mounts between said first and second component, allows said brush seal assembly to float within said gap along said direction.
  2. (Original) The brush seal of claim 1, wherein said brush seal assembly can axially float within said gap.
  3. (Original) The brush seal of claim 1, wherein said brush seal is an axial brush seal.
  4. (Original) The brush seal of claim 1, further comprising a spring for biasing said brush seal.
  5. (Original) The brush seal of claim 4, wherein said spring biases said brush seal against said second component.
  6. (Original) The brush seal of claim 4, wherein said spring biases said brush seal away from said second component.

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7. (Currently Amended) An axial brush seal assembly for sealing a gap between a first component and a second component having an elongated slot and keyways in communication therewith,  
comprising:

a body positionable in said elongated slot so that said brush seal assembly can move in an axial direction within said gap;

bristles extending from said body; and

splines extending from said body and positionable within said keyways to prevent rotation of said brush seal assembly~~means for allowing movement of said brush seal assembly in an axial direction within said gap.~~

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An axial brush seal assembly of claim 7 for sealing a gap between a first component and a second component, wherein said allowing means comprises comprising:

a body;

bristles extending from said body; and

an extension from said body, said extension having an slot therein elongated in said axial direction for allowing movement of said brush seal assembly in an axial direction within said gap.

9-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~12~~ 14, wherein said brush seal assembly includes bristles engaging said first and second components.

A1 14. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus of claim ~~12~~, further comprising:  
a first component;  
a second component spaced from said first component in an axial direction;  
an axial brush seal assembly movably mounted between said first and second component; and  
a spring; to  
wherein said brush seal assembly can move in said axial direction and said spring biases said  
brush seal assembly.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~12~~ 14, wherein said apparatus is a gas turbine engine.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of sealing a gap between a first component and a second component, comprising the steps of:  
placing an axial brush seal assembly between said first and second components; ~~and~~  
allowing said brush seal assembly to float in said gap; and  
preventing rotation of said brush seal assembly.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said allowing step comprises allowing said brush seal to float axially in said gap.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~15~~ 16, wherein said allowing step includes a step of applying a bias force to said brush seal.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said applying step comprises applying a spring bias force to said brush seal.

20. (New) The axial brush seal assembly of claim 7, wherein said splines radially extend from said body.

21. (New) The axial brush seal assembly of claim 8, further comprising a spring for biasing said brush seal.

22. (New) The axial brush seal of claim 21, wherein said spring biases said brush seal assembly against said second component.

23. (New) The brush seal of claim 21, wherein said spring biases said brush seal assembly away from said second component.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said spring biases said brush seal assembly against said second component.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said spring biases said brush seal assembly away from said second component.

26. (New) An axial brush seal assembly for sealing a gap between a first component and a second component having an elongated slot therein, comprising:

a body;

bristles extending from said body; and

a fastener mounted to said body and adapted to extend into said elongated slot;

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wherein said fastener can travel within said elongated slot to allow movement of said brush seal assembly within said gap.

27. (New) The axial brush seal assembly of claim 26, wherein said fastener is removable.
  28. (New) The axial brush seal assembly of claim 26, wherein said fastener comprises a plunger assembly.
  29. (New) A method of sealing a gap between a first component and a second component, comprising the steps of:
    - placing an axial brush seal assembly between said first and second components;
    - allowing said brush seal assembly to float in said gap; and
    - applying a bias force to said brush seal assembly.
  30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said applying step comprises applying a spring bias force to said brush seal assembly.
  31. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said applying step biases said brush seal assembly against said second component.
  32. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said applying step biases said brush seal assembly away from said second component.
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